INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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Canning Cost Committee Named

A new subcommittee of the OPA Canned Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee has been named and consists of the following appointees: William F. Dietrich, Minnesota Valley Canning Co., chairman; Louis Ratzesberger, Illinois Canning Co.; and Ivan H. Moorhouse, Olympia Canning Co. The purpose of the subcommittee is to take up with the Office of Price Administration at the proper time, the question of reflecting in the 1946 prices such increased costs as the industry may experience with respect to labels, shipping cases, freight and items other than agricultural raw materials, sugar and labor.

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As authorized by the Board of Directors and reported in last week's INFORMATION LETTER, President Fred A. Stare is proceeding with the appointment of a special Convention Committee, to work with the N.C.A. staff on details and plans for the 40th Annual Convention of the Association, scheduled to be held in Atlantic City the week of January 19, 1947.

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Chairman Oscar Seiglee of the Cuban sugar delegation left yesterday for Cuba with a revised contract to be offered the Cuban government for sale to the United States of the 1946-47 Cuban sugar crops. The price of $3.67½ per hundredweight will be stipulated in the contract along with a commitment for this country to furnish Cuba with certain staples.

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Removed from price control this week by the OPA are canned and frozen pumpkin, canned and frozen squash, canned broccoli, canned cauliflower (domestic), canned celery and celery juice, imported canned carrots, and all kinds of canned vegetable greens.

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All canned meats and meat products packed from federally inspected meats on or after June 6, in cans having a capacity of 10.5 ounces, must be delivered for sale to government agencies, USDA announced this week through the issuance of WFO 75.8. (See story on page 236.)

Congress Passes Case Bill and Acts on Other Labor Measures

Labor legislation held the spotlight in recent Congressional action with the final passage of the so-called Case bill, House passage of the President's emergency labor-draft proposal, House passage of a resolution to create a joint labor legislation study committee, and House Labor Committee appointment of a subcommittee to study the present labor situation. In addition to the Case bill, Congress also sent to the President the administrative procedure bill and the school lunch measure.

The Case bill passed the Senate on May 25 by a vote of 49 to 29 following a week of temper-strained debate in which the minority recommendations of the Committee on Education and Labor were adopted by substantial majorities. (See INFORMATION LETTER for April 20, page 176.) The House concurred in the Senate amendments on May 29 by a vote of 230 to 106 and the bill (H. R. 4908) now awaits either Presidential veto or approval.

Of primary interest to canners is the section of the Case bill dealing with secondary boycotts. This provision amends the antitrust laws (Clayton Act) by providing that it shall not be within the legitimate objects of labor, agricultural, or horticultural organizations to restrain commerce—

"(1) by strikes, or threats to strike, or violence, or threats of violence, or by concerted refusal to use, handle, transport, or otherwise deal with specified (See *Congress Passes Case Bill*, page 232)

Delay Issuance of 1946 Canned Fruit and Vegetable Ceilings

Issuance of the 1946 pricing regulations for canned fruits and vegetables has been temporarily delayed pending clarification of the 1946 subsidy program. Whether or not there will be subsidies on canned vegetables in 1946 still depends on Congressional action and acceptance of a new subsidy program by the Office of Economic Stabilization. Thus far, Economic Stabilization Director Chester Bowles has refused all attempts of the Office of Price Administration and the U. S. Department of Agriculture to set up ceiling prices on the 1946 pack without the inclusion of some sort of subsidy program. After final Congressional action on the subsidy question is reached and agreement between OES, OPA, and USDA achieved, it will still take from a week to 10 days to issue the regulations.

USDA Reports Large Citrus Crop Production for 1945-46

According to the Department of Agriculture, the total United States orange crop for the present marketing season is estimated at 100,500,000 boxes, compared with last season's crop of 109,200,000 boxes and the 1934-43 average of 73,700,000 boxes. About 36,000,000 boxes remained for harvest on May 1 this year, compared with about 44,000,000 a year earlier. Early and midseason varieties have all been harvested except for a small quantity in southern California.

In Florida about 9,000,000 boxes of Valencias remained for harvest on May 1 this year, compared with about 3,000,000 last year. Practically all of California's Valencias are harvested in the late spring, summer and fall. Less than a million boxes had been picked prior to May 1. The present crop of California Valencias is placed at 27,000,000 boxes compared with 38,400,000 boxes harvested last year.

Total grapefruit production is estimated at 62,600,000 boxes—20 percent above the crop last season of 52,200,000 boxes and 69 percent above the 10-year average. On May 1 this year about 11 million boxes remained for harvest compared with about 6 million remaining on May 1 last year. The difference is practically all in Florida, where over 6,000,000 boxes remained unpicked on May 1, compared with less than a million a year earlier.

Florida tangerines continued to move throughout April. The unusually extended season was caused by the large proportion of late bloom fruit. More than a half million boxes of tangerines were processed this season into canned juice and frozen segments. Prior to this season, processing of tangerines was unimportant.

California lemons are estimated at 13,400,000 boxes, compared with the 13,600,000 boxes estimated on April 1. The 1944-45 crop was 12,600,000 boxes. Utilization up to May 1 this year totalled about 6,000,000 boxes, compared with about 5,000,000 boxes utilized to May 1 last year.

May 1 prospects for 1946-47 citrus crops were favorable in practically all producing areas. Dry weather in Florida during most of April was relieved by showers on May 2 and 3. Texas citrus areas were short of soil moisture and irrigation water the early part of April, but good rains were received the latter part of the month. The set of Texas grapefruit appears to be lighter than for oranges. Trees appear in good condition and fruit is sizing well. California and Arizona citrus groves are in good condition and prospects are favorable for the 1946-47 crops.

Trade Agreement Information

The Tariff Commission has prepared suggestions as to procedure for industrialists or industrial groups who may wish to present data concerning existing or potential trade agreements. These suggestions are in mimeograph form and may be obtained by writing the Committee for Reciprocity, Tariff Commission Building, Eighth and E Sts., N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

Wells Named Chief of BAE

Appointment of O. V. Wells as chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the U. S. Department of Agriculture was announced this week by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson. Mr. Wells fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Howard R. Tolley who left to become chief economist and director of the Division of Economics and Marketing of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

Mr. Wells first joined the Department of Agriculture staff in January, 1929, as junior economist in the Division of Farm Management and Costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Except for nine months leave of absence to do graduate work in general economics at Harvard University in 1931-32, Mr. Wells has been continuously employed within the Department.

From the spring of 1933 until his return to the BAE, he was with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Mr. Wells is being promoted to the position of chief of the BAE from his present post as assistant chief in charge of price and marketing work.

Russia Is Leading Purchaser of Scientific Technical Data

Twenty-two thousand reports of American technicians who have been investigating enemy industrial secrets abroad have been received by the Department of Commerce, and more than 200,000 copies have been sold. Purchases are now running at the rate of 5,000 a week, the Department states.

Russia is revealed as the leading buyer of our scientific data, despite lack of reciprocal arrangements making similar Russian-held information available to this country. Copies of patents, *many of which were held secret until after VJ-Day*, have been made available. Of these, Russia has purchased 175,000. These patents have been mainly in the chemical, plastics and synthetic fields.

FAO Proposes New World Food Agency to Take Place of CFB

The Food and Agriculture Organization, on May 27, decided to set up an International Emergency Food Council to replace the Combined Food Board, and to include all the international representatives (about 20) that have been serving in Washington on the different commodity committees. To the staff of this council the U. S. Government will assign its departmental experts, as it has done to CFB. Unless extreme emergencies demand otherwise, the Emergency Council shall terminate on December 31, 1947.

It was resolved to create an International Secretariat with a Secretary General and staff to be paid by FAO. This entity will be completely divorced from any one government as to staff makeup.

It was further resolved that, since UNRRA terminates its activities on December 31 of this year, FAO should be by that time prepared to take over international relief.

The conferees agreed that Sir John Orr should prepare a plan to implement former President Hoover's idea for the creation of a Permanent International Food Authority (as distinct from the Emergency Council) and that the next FAO conference be held on September 2, probably in Copenhagen, Denmark.

California Canner Dies

Cedric R. Richmond, former head of the frozen food department of the Richmond-Chase Company, San Jose, Calif., and brother of Edmund N. Richmond, died May 16 at a local hospital there, after an illness of several months. Mr. Richmond is survived by a widow and a daughter, and, in addition to E. N. Richmond, by another brother, George Richmond, secretary of the company.

Olive and Cherry Grades

Tentative United States standards for grades for green olives and for frozen sweet cherries have been established by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, effective June 1, 1946. Further information concerning these grades may be obtained from the Standardization and Inspection Division, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

USDA TO PURCHASE CANNED CONTINENTAL SALMON

The Association has been advised by the Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, that it will receive offers for the sale of canned salmon packed in the continental United States, required to be set aside in 1946 pursuant to War Food Order 44, as amended, or as such order may be amended or in accordance with subsequent orders. Text of the USDA announcement follows:

Purchases will be made by negotiated contracts executed by the Commodity Credit Corporation. The contract terms and conditions are set forth in three separate documents: Form PBT-400, Standard Contract Conditions, contains conditions which apply to purchases of all commodities; Form SCT-56, Canned Fish—General Contract Conditions, contains additional terms applying to purchases of canned fish; and Form SCO-85, Canned Salmon, Continental United States—Offer of Sale, which details the conditions applying specifically to those types of fish.

Canners who expect to operate during 1946 are requested to submit their proposals on the offer of sale form as soon as practicable, but in any case prior to September 15, 1946. One contract will cover the entire quantity of such canned fish purchased for delivery to government agencies during the 1946 packing season and only one contract number will be assigned each canner for his entire operation.

Offers must be submitted on prescribed Offer Form SCO-85, in an original and four (4) signed copies, and must be mailed to Special Commodities Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Notice of acceptance will be given by telegram filed at Washington, D. C., within 15 days after the date of the offer. A copy of the offer form executed by CCC will be returned for canner's file.

All cans shall be labeled with canner's labels. All cases shall be marked with the group number identifying the specie as follows: Group 1—reds, sockeye, bluebacks; Group 2—chinooks, kings, springs, steelheads, cohos, medium reds, silvers, silversides; and Group 3—pinks, chums.

The grade identification letters A, B, C, D and E as set forth in Federal Specifications PP-S-31a shall not be marked on the cases. Additional case markings will be furnished with shipping instructions.

The "Notice of Tender of Delivery," Form SCO-85a, is a revision of the old Form PBO-423a, and it will be used for the same purpose and in the same manner as the old form. Form SCO-85b is identical to SCO-85a, except for the omission of mailing instructions at the bottom of SCO-85b. Each tender should be made up in an original and three (3) copies of SCO-85a to be mailed to Washington, D. C., and two (2) copies of SCO-85b to be sent to the Outport Representative at Portland. Copies to be retained by the canners are in addition to the above. Additional copies of these forms may be obtained from the Outport Representative, Portland Office.

Further details with respect to this program may be obtained from M. W. Wallar of the Washington Office, whose telephone number is REpublic 4142, Extension 3559. Questions pertaining to shipping should be referred to Outport Representative, Production and Marketing Administration, Terminal Sales Building, Portland, Ore.

Date Set by Government for West Coast Pilchard Hearing

A hearing on a proposed allocation program for Pacific Coast pilchards during the 1946-1947 season will be held at 10 a. m. in Room 237 Merchants Exchange Building, San Francisco, Calif., Wednesday, June 12, Milton C. James, Assistant Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, has announced.

Members of the fishing industry and interested Government and State agencies will be given an opportunity at the hearing to present their views as to the necessity for allocation of the pilchard catch and as to the character of the program if adopted.

Although the hearing will be limited to June 12, briefs may be filed in Washington for the record until June 17. Andrew W. Anderson, Chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Commercial Fisheries, will preside.

Allocation of pilchards was first undertaken by the Interior Department in 1943 and continued in 1944 and 1945. At the close of the fishing season in March, 1946, it was believed that allocation would no longer be necessary. However, the Department of Agriculture recently amended War Food Order 44, requiring 45 percent of the 1946-1947 pilchard production to be set aside for purchase by the Government. At the same time, the Department of Agriculture requested the Department of Interior to take whatever action is necessary to achieve the maximum production of canned pilchards. If this can be done in no other way, the Department of Agriculture recommended that a pilchard order be issued similar to that in force last year.

Maine Sardine and Atlantic Sea Herring Offer Amended

An amendment to the U. S. Department of Agriculture's offer to purchase canned Maine sardines and Atlantic sea herring is reprinted as follows:

Reference is made to purchase Announcement SC-56, CANNED SEA HERRING AND CANNED MAINE SARDINES, dated April 18, 1946, and OFFER OF SALE, Form SCO-56, paragraph 3, SPECIFICATIONS.

Inasmuch as the Maine State law fails to specify the quantity of oil or sauce per case when the fish is packed less than four fish in the ¼ size can, a minimum of three (3) pounds of oil to a case or a minimum of four (4) pounds of tomato or mustard sauce per case will be required to meet the specifications that the fish shall be canned "in accordance with sound commercial practice."

Also in paragraph 3, the definition (4) on page 3, of the term "Well cleaned" is a part of "Definitions" in paragraph B. In packing two or three fish in a ¼ size can it is required that all specifications for sea herring shall be applicable including the requirement that the wall of the body cavity shall be slit.

Definition number (5), "Official Inspection Sample" applies to both sea herring and sardines.

Allocations of Canned Fish to Philippines Are Cancelled

The Office of International Trade announces that for the remainder of the second quarter (June), allocations of all meats, dairy products, fats and oils (including soaps), canned fish, and sugar for the Philippine Islands have been cancelled by the Department of Agriculture. Until further notice, therefore, OIT will be unable to grant licenses to export these food items to the Philippines.

Applications which have been received by OIT but not processed and all applications received subsequent to May 24 will be returned without action to the applicant. Due consideration will be given to inequities in licensing caused by cancellation of these allocations if and when new allocations are made available.

In an effort to alleviate the present unfavorable conditions affecting transportation in the Islands, the Philippine Government has ordered that all ships arriving in Manila from the United States and other foreign ports on and after June 1, 1946, must obtain permits from the Insular Collector of Customs before unloading.

APPROVAL OF FORM 10 APPLICATION NECESSARY FOR REFLECTION OF WAGE INCREASES IN CEILING PRICES

Reports received by the Association from members indicate that considerable confusion has arisen concerning the filing by canners of Form 10 and Form 9 of the National Wage Stabilization Board. Section 202 of the Supplementary Wage and Salary Regulations of March 8, 1946, which were issued pursuant to Executive Order 9697, provides that an employer waives his right to use a wage or salary increase as a basis for requesting a price increase unless prior approval of the wage or salary increase is secured. Application for such approval is made on Form 10, in all cases where approval is necessary. In certain situations approval of the wage increase is automatic. (See INFORMATION LETTER for March 30, page 151.)

Unapproved wage or salary increases are not unlawful, with certain minor exceptions. The only important control exercised at present is the indirect one of refusing to recognize such unapproved increase as a basis for price increases. Accordingly, Section 201 of the Supplementary Wage and Salary Regulations provides that a wage or salary increase may be made without prior approval and without prejudice to the right to ask at a later date for reflection of the wage increase in ceiling prices if the employer files a notice within 30 days from the date he makes the wage increase effective. This notice states that he has no "present intention" of using the wage increase as a basis for asking for a price increase. NWSB Form 9 has been provided for the filing of this notice. (See INFORMATION LETTER for May 11, page 208.)

In numerous cases the question has arisen as to how soon after a Form 9 is filed—that is, after notice is given that the employer does not presently seek a price increase—he may change his mind and file a Form 10 so as to have his wage increase approved and have the opportunity to ask for a price increase. Where OPA regulations for 1946 will permit automatic price adjustments to reflect wage increases, these adjustments will be limited to approved wage increases. Hence, any employer desiring to take advantage of the new OPA regulation will eventually have to file a Form 10 (unless the wage increases granted are automatically approved) and secure approval, either in whole or in part, of any wage increase.

There appears to be nothing in the formal regulations indicating that any particular period of time must elapse between the filing of a Form 9 and the filing of a Form 10. It has been reported that the Wage Stabilization Board does not consider the time period between the filing of a Form 9 and a Form 10 in determining whether to approve a Form 10 application for approval of a wage increase.

Insofar as OPA is concerned, it has been informally reported that where an employer, having first granted a wage increase and filed a Form 9 notice, thereafter requests a price increase, OPA will require that he show that some substantial change in conditions has occurred. In other words, OPA will insist that the employer adhere to his Form 9 position that he does not presently intend to ask a price increase until he can show some changed conditions which warrant his changing his mind. Apparently, the fact that the Wage Stabilization Board has in the meantime approved his Form 10 application will not in and of itself suffice in the ordinary case of this kind.

However, in the case of industry-wide price adjustments, such as are contemplated in the forthcoming supplement covering the 1946 prices of canned fruits and vegetables, it is understood that the sole requirement will be that the Form 10 application has been approved (or that the wage increases were automatically approved). The fact that a Form 9 application was originally filed and later superseded by a Form 10 application will not affect the operation of the regulation insofar as it permits reflection of approved wage increases in 1946 price ceilings.

As a precaution, it appears desirable that the routine be followed of filing a Form 10 application and securing approval of wage increases prior to their being put into effect. Inasmuch as these wage regulations are subject to change, and the text of the new pricing regulation is not yet available, it would appear desirable that canners secure formal approval of all wage increases prior to their being put into effect. Where circumstances make this course of action impossible and a wage increase must be granted prior to approval, the Form 9 notice should be promptly filed and followed within a reasonable period by a Form 10 application.

CONGRESS PASSES CASE BILL

(Continued from page 229)

articles or materials, (A) to force or require any employer, or any other individual, corporation, or partnership to cease using, selling, handling, transporting, or otherwise dealing in the products of any other producer, processor, or manufacturer, or (B) to force or require any employer to recognize, deal with, comply with the demands of, or employ members of, one labor organization instead of another labor organization with which such employer has an effective collective-bargaining agreement.

"(2) to join or combine with any person to fix prices, allocate customers, restrict production, distribution, or competition, or impose restrictions or conditions upon the purchase, sale, or use of any material, machines, or equipment: Provided, That nothing herein shall prevent a labor organization from joining or combining with another labor organization or an agricultural or horticultural organization from joining or combining with another agricultural or horticultural organization."

In addition, the section of the bill dealing with secondary boycotts amends the Norris-LaGuardia Act to make clear that the above described activities are not "labor disputes" within the meaning of that Act.

Case Bill Explained

The Case bill declares that, as a matter of public policy in order to prevent or minimize interuptions of the free flow of commerce growing out of labor disputes, every reasonable effort shall be made by employers and employees and their representatives to make and maintain agreements concerning rates of pay, hours, and working conditions, including provision for adequate notice of proposed changes in such agreements and provision for final adjustment of grievances or questions of application or interpretation of agreements. The statement of policy further provides that in case of a dispute over the terms of an agreement, either party may by written notice request a conference be held within ten days to settle the dispute. In case the dispute is not settled by conference, the parties to the dispute are directed by the bill to cooperate fully and promptly in such procedures as may be undertaken by the Federal Mediation Board which is created by the bill.

Whenever the Board proffers its services, the measure provides for a 60-day period during which it shall be the duty of the employer to refrain

from a lockout and to maintain the rates of pay, hours, and working conditions existing immediately prior to the dispute and the duty of the employees and their representatives to refrain from any strike or concerted slow down of production. Violations of this provision on the part of an employer would place him in the position of having engaged in an unfair labor practice under the Wagner Act. In the case of employees, violations would take away their status in the particular dispute under sections 8, 9, and 10 of the same Act.

The functions of the Board would include those of the present United States Conciliation Service. In addition the Board would be directed to encourage employers and employees to make and maintain labor agreements, to settle differences by conferences and other peaceful means, and to assist in the settlement of disputes through conciliation and mediation. In its discretion the Board may proffer its services on its own motion or upon request of either of the parties to a dispute. If an agreement is not reached as a result of mediation or conciliation, the Board is to seek to induce the parties voluntarily to submit the controversy to arbitration.

In the case of labor disputes affecting public utilities, an additional period banning lockouts and strikes is provided for in the bill. When the Board determines that efforts to settle the dispute by conference, conciliation, mediation, and arbitration have failed the Board shall request the President to appoint an emergency commission to report its recommendations for adjustment within 30 days. If both parties to the dispute agree, the commission may have a total of 60 days in which to report. The report of the commission shall be made public promptly by the President. During this 30- to 60-day period of time and for five days thereafter, the penalties for engaging in lockouts or strikes described above would apply.

Violation Would Be Felony

The bill would make it a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 20 years or by a fine of not more than $10,000, or both, for anyone in any way or degree to obstruct, delay, or affect commerce by robbery or extortion. Conspiring, acting in concert, participating or attempting to participate, or threatening physical violence in connection with robbery or extortion that obstructs, delays, or affects commerce also would be subject to the same penalties.

Extortion is defined to mean "the obtaining of property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful use of actual or threatened force, violence, or fear or under the color of official right." The term robbery is defined to mean "the unlawful taking or obtaining of personal property, from the person or in the presence of another, against his will, by means of actual or threatened force, or violence, or fear of injury, immediate or future, to his person or property, or property in his custody or possession, or the person or property of a relative or member of his family or anyone in his company at the time of the taking or obtaining."

Another provision of the bill makes it unlawful for an employer to pay or for a representative of his employees to receive any money or thing of value except (1) compensation for services of an employee, (2) dues or membership fees payable to a labor organization, (3) payments to a trust fund for medical care, pensions, occupational injury compensation, or health and accident insurance that is equally administered by employees and their employers.

Supervisory employees who are authorized and required to use independent judgment, who have five or more workers under their jurisdiction, and who may hire or discharge workers are exempt from the Wagner Act under another section of the bill.

The final major provision of the bill provides that suits for violation of a collective bargaining contract may be brought in any U. S. District Court having jurisdiction of the parties involved. In authorizing such suits the bill states that—

"Any labor organization whose activities affect commerce as defined in this Act shall be bound by the acts of its duly authorized agents acting within the scope of their authority from the said labor organization and may sue or be sued as an entity and in behalf of the employees whom it represents in the courts of the United States: Provided, That any money judgment against such labor organization shall be enforceable only against the organization as an entity and against its assets, and shall not be enforceable against any individual member or his assets."

To Lose Wagner Act Status

This section of the measure also provides that any employee who participates in a strike or action in violation of an existing contract that does not have the approval of the union that acts as the exclusive bargaining agent shall lose his status under the Wagner Act.

Following the President's appearance before a joint session of Congress on May 25, the House passed by a vote of 306 to 13 his recommendations for a "temporary basis during the present period of emergency for the prompt settlement of industrial disputes." The bill (H. R. 6578) was sent immediately to the Senate where the leadership directed the bill to be referred to the Committee on Interstate Commerce, evidently fearful that by its reference to the Committee on Education and Labor the drastic proposal would not receive prompt consideration. Later in the day the Interstate Commerce Committee reported the bill and at the conclusion of action on the Case bill the Senate took up the President's recommendation.

Work or Draft Bill

The bill provides that whenever the United States has taken over the operation of any plants, mines, or facilities constituting a vital or substantial part of an essential industry and a strike, lockout, slowdown, or other interruption occurs or continues the President may by proclamation declare "the existence of a national emergency relative to the interruption of operations." Such a proclamation shall (1) take effect within 48 hours of its issuance, (2) call upon all employees and officers to return to work, (3) call upon all representatives of the employer and the employees to take affirmative action to restore full operation, and (4) establish fair and just wages and terms of employment effective during government possession.

Continuance of a strike, lockout, slowdown, or other interruption would be made unlawful after the effective date of the proclamation. Willful violation of the obligation to put the affected plant or mine back in operation would be punishable by a fine of $5,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. The bill also would authorize the United States to petition through the District Courts for appropriate temporary relief or restraining order.

Employees failing to return to work or engaging in strikes, slowdowns, or other interruptions during possession by the United States and after the effective date of the proclamation would lose their status under the Wagner Act. Finally, the President would be authorized, either in the original proclamation or in a subsequent proclamation, to cause the induction into the Army at such time, in such manner, and under such necessary terms and conditions as he may prescribe any person who was employed in the affected plant or mine including officers and executives who failed to return to work within 24

hours after the effective date of the original proclamation.

The Senate on May 29 by a vote of 70 to 13 removed this "labor draft" provision. Current reports indicate that the Senate may recommit the measure.

House Passes Smith Resolution

Besides passing the President's recommendation on May 25, the House also passed and sent to the Senate the Smith resolution that would create a joint Congressional Committee of 14 members to make a thorough study and investigation of existing and pending labor legislation and of the whole field of labor relations. The resolution would direct the committee to report within six months.

The House Labor Committee interrupted consideration of amendment of the Fair Labor Standards Act by appointing a seven-member subcommittee on May 24 to study the entire labor situation. This subcommittee is under the Chairmanship of Augustine B. Kelley of Pennsylvania and includes the following: O. C. Fisher of Texas, Frank E. Hook of Michigan, Alexander J. Resa of Illinois, Gerald W. Landis of Indiana, Samuel K. McConnell, Jr., of Pennsylvania, and Ellsworth B. Buck of New Jersey. The subcommittee has requested the Speaker of the House that it also be appointed to the membership of the proposed Smith joint congressional committee.

Canned Poultry Statistics

The quantity of poultry (dressed weight) canned or used in canning during April totaled 9,680,000 pounds compared with 18,392,000 pounds in April, 1945, 10,564,000 pounds in April, 1944, and 7,720,000 pounds in April, 1943, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported this week. Production consisted of 9,218,000 pounds of chicken and 462,000 pounds of turkey. The following table shows the production by months and by years:

	1944 *Pounds*	1945 *Pounds*	1946 *Pounds*
January...	13,191,000	15,343,000	13,020,000
February..	13,686,000	16,390,000	11,402,000
March.....	13,261,000	18,746,000	11,145,000
April.....	10,564,000	18,392,000	9,680,000
May.....	10,056,000	20,011,000	.....
June.....	11,294,000	14,401,000	.....
July.....	7,839,000	7,764,000	.....
August....	6,701,000	8,034,000	.....
September.	6,476,000	4,759,000	.....
October...	10,432,000	5,815,000	.....
November.	15,449,000	8,972,000	.....
December.	12,852,000	7,960,000	.....
Total....	131,801,000	146,587,000	45,247,000

Round Table Discussion on Microbiological Problems in the Processing and Spoilage of Foods Held by Bacteriologists

A round table discussion on the topic of "Microbiological Problems in the Processing and Spoilage of Foods" was held as a part of the program at the annual meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists at Detroit, Mich., May 22. C. W. Bohrer of the Association's Washington Research Laboratory, acted as substitute convener in the absence of Dr. E. J. Cameron, Director of the Laboratory.

Dr. Glen G. Slocum, Food and Drug Administration; Dr. James A. Berry, Western Regional Research Laboratory; Dr. V. S. Troy, Continental Can Company; and Dr. O. B. Williams, University of Texas, served as discussion leaders. The topics selected were, respectively: "Spoilage in Processed Food," "Bacteriology of Frozen Food," "Spoilage in Tomato Products," and "The Interest of the Army in Food Preservation and Spoilage Prevention." Each subject represented the individual's interest in the main topic under discussion; namely, Government, the frozen food packer, the canner, and the Army.

Discussion centered around the bacteriology of frozen foods and spoilage in tomato products. Dr. Berry stated in the discussion that a count of 400,000 bacteria per gram of peas was considered as indicative of good packing procedure for frozen foods. He mentioned that peas in the pod are sterile, and that their sanitary history begins when they leave the pod. The total bacterial count, as well as a total microscopic count, is a reflection of the sanitary history of the product. He stated also that bacterial counts vary with the type of product being packed.

Considerable interest in the Butyric Anaerobe, as being the agent responsible for spoilage in canned tomatoes, was shown in the lengthy discussion on this point. The butyric organism has been found in spoiled home-canned tomatoes, but there it is usually associated with other agents, such as yeasts and molds, which had resulted from gross understerilization or leakage. Further work on this organism is underway.

At the close of the round table discussion, a special meeting, called by Dr. O. B. Williams, was held. At this meeting, Dr. Williams outlined a proposed program of research involving microbiology under the sponsorship of the Committee on Food Research of the Quartermaster Food and Container Institute for the Armed Forces.

Forthcoming Meetings

June 3—Michigan Canners Association, Spring Meeting, Traverse City.

June 10-11—Maine Canners Association, Summer Meeting, Lakewood.

June 17-18—Mayonnaise and Salad Dressing Manufacturers Association, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.

June 17-19—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Mid-year Meeting, Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, Pa.

June 20—National Pickle Packers Association, Mid-year Meeting, Bismarck Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

June 21—Ozark Canners Association, Annual Spring Meeting, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.

July 10-20—Indiana Canners Association, Canning Technicians School, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

July 24-August 2—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., New York State Experiment Station, Canning Technicians School, Geneva, N. Y.

November 21-22—Indiana Canners Association, Inc., Fall Meeting, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

December 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, Annual Fall Convention, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.

December 10-11—Ohio Canners' Association, Annual Convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus.

January 19-24, 1947—National Canners Association, 40th Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.

March 3, 1947—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Convention, San Francisco, Calif.

New OPA Information Head

Price Administrator Paul A. Porter announced this week the appointment of Mrs. Ethel B. Gilbert as Deputy Administrator for Information to succeed Robert R. R. Brooks on June 14. Mr. Brooks will return to Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., as dean, after a five-year leave of absence.

Mrs. Gilbert joined the OPA staff in June, 1942. Since early 1943 she has worked with OPA industry advisory committees and since July, 1944, has served as Director of the Office of Industry Advisory Committees. Before coming to OPA, Mrs. Gilbert had been associated for eight years with the commercial department of the National Broadcasting Company. Previously she was engaged in public relations work with colleges, foundations, and social organizations.

Some Delay Seen in Progress of Sweet Corn and Snap Bean Crops But Green Pea Production Appears Favorable in Most Sections

Temperatures in most of the United States during early May were too low to be ideal for germination of sweet corn and snap beans, but the developing crop of green peas thrived through the cool, moist weather of late April and the first two weeks of May, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported this week.

In Minnesota and Wisconsin, insufficient rain caused some uneasiness to growers of peas for processing, but planting is expected to continue into early June in the late areas. Harvesting of the early varieties got under way about the middle of the month in Virginia. In the Northwest, it is expected that some of the crop will be harvested before the end of May, the Department said.

Too much rainfall and moisture in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and parts of Iowa interfered with the planting of sweet corn. However, in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania, the season was well advanced by mid-May. Many growers planted some of their land around May 1. In the Northwest, planting of sweet corn was making considerable headway through early May, with higher temperatures needed to provide favorable conditions for germinating the seed.

Snap bean canning continued in the Southern States through May. Virginia growers expected to start picking before June 1. In the Northern or late States, some snap bean seed will be planted early in June. Official text of the USDA report by areas follows:

Green Peas for Processing

Delaware, Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia: Growing conditions generally continued satisfactory through April and the early part of May. Many fields of green peas were in full bloom by the middle of the month and harvesting the crop was under way on the Eastern Shore. Aphids were troublesome in a few fields.

Pennsylvania and Western Maryland: Planting operations were completed early in May and the pea crop was growing under favorable conditions. Some fields were in bloom by May 15.

New York: Timely showers relieved the need for moisture in western New York. Germination was good and the crop was developing satisfactorily.

Ohio, Indiana and Michigan: In central Indiana and southward the pea crop was somewhat further advanced than usual. Many fields were coming into bloom by mid-May. In Ohio, Michigan and the northern portion of Indiana, most of the acreage intended for green peas was planted late in April and early May. Rains were needed to maintain the most satisfactory growing conditions for this crop.

Illinois and Wisconsin: Planting operations were completed before May 10 in Illinois and southern Wisconsin. In the central and northern part of Wisconsin, growers expect to continue planting through the latter part of May. The need for rain is apparent except in southern Illinois.

Iowa and Minnesota: Very little acreage remained to be planted after May 10 in these States. An early frost caused limited damage to the vines in some fields. Additional rains would now be beneficial.

Colorado and Utah: The crop in these States is developing satisfactorily. In the early fields, blossoms are appearing.

Oregon and Washington: In these States, the crop is about a week or ten days earlier than usual. Some acreage will be ready for harvesting before the end of May. High winds have depleted the soil of moisture and rains are needed, except along the coast where growing conditions are satisfactory.

Snap Beans for Processing

New York State: Fields were being prepared for snap beans and growers were planting some of their seed by May 15. Most of the acreage, however, will be planted by the end of May.

Pennsylvania: Some fields were planted around May 15. Moisture supply is adequate, but warm weather is needed to germinate the seed.

Delaware and Maryland: Growers in these two States were about 10 days ahead of schedule and expect to have most of their land planted before the end of May. Some clear, warm weather is needed to provide the most favorable conditions for germinating snap bean seed.

Virginia, North and South Carolina: Planting in Virginia has been completed and the beans are up to good stands in most sections. However, the weather has continued too cool for best growth. Harvesting in Virginia is expected to get under way late in May, but it has passed the peak in South Carolina.

Louisiana and Mississippi: Harvesting is expected to start about May 15 in Mississippi and in Louisiana. Too frequent rains have menaced the crop in Louisiana. In Mississippi, although rainfall has been ample, it has not caused much damage. Clear weather is needed.

Arkansas and Oklahoma: Growers took advantage of good weather early in May to prepare their fields and by May 15 considerable seed was in the ground. Germination has been good in the first fields planted.

Michigan and Wisconsin: Seasonal progress with field work was made early in the month, but only a limited amount of snap bean seed will be in the ground before June 1. Moisture is adequate in Michigan, but rains are needed in Wisconsin.

Colorado and Utah: It is expected that most of the acreage intended for snap beans will be planted between May 15-31. Soil moisture is adequate.

Oregon and Washington: Planting operations got under way early in May and will continue through most of the month. Rains are needed and higher temperatures would be helpful.

Sweet Corn for Processing

Delaware and Maryland: Planting is expected to be completed by the end of May. Frequent rains earlier in the month were bothersome.

Pennsylvania: A few growers started to plant sweet corn seed around May 1 but cool weather slowed germination. Clear, warm weather is now needed.

New York State: Preparations are in progress for sweet corn planting, but most of the seed will be planted around June 1.

Ohio and Indiana: The season this year is about two weeks earlier than usual. Growers have made considerable headway with corn planting.

Illinois and Wisconsin: Seasonal progress was made in Illinois, but dry soil in much of Wisconsin is retarding farm work in that State. Growers now hope to start planting their seed early in June.

Iowa and Minnesota: Planting was in progress through the early part of May in these States. Only a limited amount of the acreage intended for sweet corn will be planted after June 1.

Oregon and Washington: Cool weather slowed germination of sweet corn seed in these States. Most of the acreage had been planted by May 15.

Col. Isker Retires From QMC

Colonel Rohland A. Isker, commanding officer of the Army Quartermaster Corps' Subsistence, Research and Development Laboratory, Chicago, Ill., has retired from active military life after 30 years of Army service to form a partnership in the advertising firm of Hooper-Isker, Inc., Chicago. Colonel Isker established world-wide recognition during the war for his work in connection with the development and production of the Army emergency rations—C, D, K, and 10-in-1. Because of his outstanding service during the war, Colonel Isker was awarded the War Department's Legion of Merit.

PROCESSING GREEN PEAS

1946 Indicated Acreage to Exceed Last Year's Record-high by 6 Percent

About 529,000 acres have been contracted for or planted in green peas for canning and freezing this year, according to a preliminary estimate by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This total exceeds by about 6 percent the 1945 record-high planting of 497,480 acres and is 40 percent above the 1935-44 average of 377,900 acres, BAE said.

The largest regional increase for 1946 is indicated in the Northeast, including Maine, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, where plantings appear about 21 percent larger than in 1945. In the Western States, including Colorado, Idaho, Utah, California, Oregon and Washington, canners and freezers have planted about 6 percent more acreage than in 1945.

In the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia area acreage is expanded 4 percent over 1945. In the important Midwestern group, consisting of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, a regional increase of nearly 3 percent over 1945 is indicated, despite a 4 percent reduction in Minnesota.

The following table shows the contracted 1946 green pea acreage (based on preliminary statistics) as compared with the acreage planted in 1945:

State	1945 *Acres*	1946 *Acres*
Maine	4,970	7,080
New York	40,800	50,000
New Jersey	4,300	4,500
Pennsylvania	16,800	19,100
North Atlantic	66,870	80,680
Ohio	6,600	7,600
Indiana	9,500	9,800
Illinois	20,800	22,500
Michigan	19,500	13,100
Wisconsin	157,500	160,600
Minnesota	46,400	44,500
Iowa	3,880	4,300
North Central	255,180	262,400
Maryland	11,800	12,300
Delaware	3,900	4,300
Virginia	2,800	2,700
South Atlantic	18,500	19,300
Idaho	5,120	6,000
Colorado	5,300	6,100
Utah	15,500	14,600
Washington	59,700	63,900
Oregon	56,800	58,500
California	5,590	8,340
Western	148,010	157,440
Other States	8,920	9,100
U. S. total	497,480	528,920

NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the Association since April 27, 1946:

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Allied Molasses Co., Inc., Perth Amboy, N. J.

Christian & Co., Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ingalls Packing Corp., Auburn, Wash.

Mountain Crest Farms, Hendersonville, N. C.

Roxanna Canning Co., Division of the Churngold Corp., Cincinnati, Ohio.

South Bend Oyster Co., South Bend, Wash.

Warriner Products Co., Inc., Baton Rouge, La.

USDA Imposes Almost Total Set-aside on Canned Meats

All canned meat and meat products packed from federally inspected meats on and after June 6, in cans having a capacity of more than 10.5 ounces, must be delivered for sale to government agencies, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced May 28 through the issuance of War Food Order 75.8. The new order applies to any meat food product which consists principally of beef, veal, pork, lamb or mutton, and is intended for human consumption.

Department officials pointed out that one of the chief reasons for the new order is the special need of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration for canned meats. Most of the meat required by UNRRA must be in canned form, due to the nature of distribution problems encountered by that agency in many areas it serves. The Department has experienced increasing difficulty in procuring adequate quantities of canned meat for this outlet. While USDA is the governmental agency most concerned in the procurement of canned meat, the Navy still requires relatively small quantities of such products.

The new canned meat set-aside regulation provides that the Order Administrator may specify the types of canned meat products required, in line with the specifications of the procurement agencies involved. In addition, it includes requirements for record keeping, a relief from hardship clause, and other similar provisions.

Campbell, Greenleaf Attend Michigan's Spring Meeting

Secretary Carlos Campbell and C. A. Greenleaf, Assistant Director of the Washington Research Laboratory, will represent the National Canners Association at the Spring Meeting of the Michigan Canners Association, June 3, at Traverse City. Mr. Greenleaf will discuss the N.C.A.'s canning plant sanitation program.

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